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DRAGGING THE HOUSEWIFE INTO POLITICS.

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.] ***Societies and Branches in the Union 561.*** [NON-PARTY.

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Notes and News.

A New Triumph for Norwegian Women.

The Storthing has agreed, by 91 votes to 14, to an amendment of Paragraph 1,250 of the Fundamental Laws, thereby enabling women to be appointed members of the Council of State.

Nurses' Allowances.

In the House of Commons, on April 5th, Sir Philip Magnus asked the Financial Secretary to the War Office whether, having regard to the duties undertaken by nurses at the front, the risks they run, and their obligations in many cases to near relatives at home, he could see his way to recommend the repeal of the Order of December, 1915, under which no allowances, with the exception of field allowances, are to be drawn by nurses. He pointed out that the withdrawal of these allowances for lodgings, fuel, and light was a great hardship in many cases, and was regarded by the nurses as a serious grievance. Mr. Foster replied that while he fully appreciated the services rendered by nurses at the front he could not hold out hopes of any modification of the orders issued.

The reason given by the Army Council for withdrawing these allowances is that they are special issues for officers at the front in aid of their expenses at home. But while a considerable number of young officers have no home expenses at all, many private nurses are doing war work at a pecuniary loss, and have financial obligations which it is only possible for them to discharge out of an extra allowance. It is to be feared, therefore, that some of the more experienced women now engaged in army nursing may be compelled to give it up.

Infant Mortality.

In reply to a question from Mr. King, the President of the Local Government Board stated that the death-rate for infants under one year of age amounted, according to the latest figures for 1915, to 110 per 1,000 births, as compared with 115 per 1,000 births in the previous ten years, and 105 in the year 1914, and 108 in the year 1913. He stated that in spite of the general restriction of local expenditure active steps were being taken by practically all the larger local sanitary authorities to lessen infant mortality and to promote the welfare of infants generally. From many districts, however, come complaints of the bad condition in which the streets are kept, and the infrequency with which household refuse is now collected, and this will be a more serious matter when the warm weather begins. In Newcastle-on-Tyne, Liverpool, and Gateshead women are already being employed as street-sweepers, and it is urgently necessary that they should be taken on in every town to fill the depleted staffs of men scavengers. Unless energetic steps are taken it is to be feared that infantile diarrhœa will levy a heavy toll this year on the little lives which health visitors and others are endeavouring to save.

Wittenberg.

Some idea of the fearful overcrowding of the prisoners of war in the Wittenberg Camp, says *The Daily Telegraph*, may be gained by comparison with Mr. Seebohm Rowntree's account of the worst instances of overcrowding in York. The most densely inhabited district in York, Mr. Rowntree found, was a slum with a population of 349 per acre. Comparing it with London, he found that it was only exceeded by one London district—Bethnal Green—where the number was 365. But at Wittenberg 15,000 men were huddled together in a space of 10½ acres—over 1,400 to the acre! Water for washing, soap, fuel, and the common decencies of life were not procurable; the whole appalling story of the outbreak of typhus, the prompt flight of German officials before the plague, and the sufferings of the victims caged in that narrow space where the pestilence raged, loaded guns being placed ready to prevent any escape from the seething mass of misery inside, is far more hideous than the worst records of Nana Sahib's cruelties. Modern German "thoroughness" and efficiency have made for themselves a monument of shame—the prison camp of Wittenberg will be remembered as the greatest triumph of Kultur. None know better than the Germans the elements of sanitation, the dangers of crowding great herds of half-starved men together under conditions which would not be tolerated in that country for cattle-pens. For the conditions were deliberately created, and were not a consequence of the first confusion due to the outbreak of war.

Higher Wages and Better Health.

At the annual meeting of the members of the Manchester, Salford, and District Women's Trades Society (reported in *The Manchester Guardian* of April 6th), the President, Miss Reddish, announced a decrease of £300 in the amount of sickness benefits paid out, as compared with 1914. Miss Reddish remarked that many women had left their old occupations to do munition work, and the lessened ill-health, in her opinion, was due to the fact that they were receiving higher wages, and, consequently, could feed and clothe themselves better. "Pauline" (will gentlemen who manage the finances of insurance committees please note?), when she can get food, needs so much less in the way of medicine and medical attendance that she ceases to be a burden upon "Peter," whose hard-earned insurance money (not so hardly-earned, by the way, as Pauline's) is encroached upon by her bad health. But Peter is supposed to support her "in sickness and in health," which is one of the chief reasons, in fact, why she is badly paid in the labour market and cannot afford to eat. And the strangest part of the whole strange tale is that Peter cannot see that her cause is his own, and her interests are his; but does his best week by week to keep her out of his union and to drive her to accept the starvation wages which are fatal to the interests of both.

The Stable-Boy and the State.

"It has recently been brought to our notice," writes a correspondent from a southern county, "that the Government —whilst urging drastic economy upon the anxious, over-burdened taxpayer, whose income is constantly decreasing while the prices of the necessaries of life are rising—*is paying boys from 15 to 17 years of age 24s. and 25s. a week* for acting as stable-boys in the horse camps. The statement of the above fact is its own comment! These boys have just left school and are quite untrained in the work. This salary, by the way, is the amount paid in more than one Government Department to a woman with a University degree."

Anti-Suffragist Saws.

"The woman's work of which the nation will stand in most need after the war will be that which would prompt each one to regard herself as her sister's keeper," is a mysterious oracle given forth by *The Anti-Suffrage Review*.—"The individual attention that women have it in their power to give . . . must remain individualistic and mainly local," at first sight a dark saying, it can soon be paraphrased into the old familiar adage: "The woman's place is in the home," without losing anything in the process. "Rather should we seek to utilise the services of those who are not driven by necessity to earn their living in directions where a day's work has no monetary equivalent," is a yet darker saying. Now it is, of course, laudable to wish to "utilise" this class of labour, for "women who earn their living in directions where a day's work has no monetary equivalent" are, to put it bluntly, being sweated, and persons employing them might come into collision with the Truck Act. Why, then, does the Anti-Suffragist Reviewer, at the end of the article, recommend his methods and "others which will readily occur to everyone," because "*they will be out of the limelight!*" There is nothing in them really that need shun publicity. Besides, after all the precautions he has taken to muffle up his meaning in intricate phrases, ten to one nobody will ever find him out.

The Mansion House Meeting.

At the Mansion House Meeting last Tuesday in aid of the Maternity Unit for Refugees in Russia, organised by the N.U., the Lord Mayor presided, and most interesting speeches were made by Mr. Ian Malcolm, M.P., Red Cross Commissioner; Mr. Rothay Reynolds, Miss Violetta Thurstan, and Miss Frances Sterling. Mr. Ian Malcolm said that he spoke as an anti-Suffragist, whole-heartedly supporting the work of a society with which he had not always been in sympathy. He was glad to bear testimony to the great work done by women's societies and the excellent organisation of hospitals run by women.

Women and Banking.

The Gilbart Lectures on Banking, for 1916, delivered at King's College, were, for the first time, addressed to an audience composed of men and women clerks. So many bank clerks have joined the Army that the examination was thrown open to women who have filled their posts. It was hardly to be expected that the women students would take very high places in the final examination, for their experience of practical work has been limited to a period of months rather than years; but a woman student, Miss Rose Esther Kingston, of the London and South Western Bank, heads the list of twenty-two prize-winners, which also includes three other women's names.

The "Common Cause" Scholarships for Commercial Chemistry.

In another column we acknowledge the receipt of donations to the Scholarship Fund, which brings the total to the amount for which we asked our readers. We want to express our warmest thanks to the givers, not only for the generous response and support to the Scholarship scheme, but for the kind letters received and the sympathy and interest expressed. We hope shortly to be able to announce further developments.

At the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospital, Royaumont.

Jean Leon Grenadel, Occupant of the "Hirondelle" Bed, "Jeanne D'Arc" Ward.

Grenadel is another legacy from the September attack, though, as a matter of fact, he got his present wound in the "consolidating" work after the second Artois attack in October. It was his curious accent that first made me notice him. When we were attached to the —— Army we rarely heard the curious Midi speech, but we had a great many Bretons. Now we are becoming accustomed, in our work for the Army that is on the immediate right of the British, to the twang of the Midi men.

At the front from the beginning, wounded twice, Grenadel looks between thirty and forty, but he is really a great deal younger, and before the war farmed a little piece of land at Monferran-Saves, near Toulouse, and lived with his parents. He had kept his nose too close to the grindstone to marry, but he had just made up his mind that he could do so, and the betrothal arrangements were all in train, when the French Army was mobilised, and he was sent off to his depôt. During the retreat, he was wounded in the chest in the fighting round the Meuse, and was evacuated, as a *grand blessé*, to Toulon, with a rifle bullet in him. Here he remained, seriously ill, for nearly three months, but they got his bullet out, and the military surgeon who performed the operation, when he gave the relic to Grenadel, told him that there were few men in the Army who possessed a souvenir such as his, because there were very few who could, as live men, hold in their hands a bullet extracted from such a vulnerable spot and such a difficult position.

However, he recovered, and returned to his regimental depôt. Very soon he was drafted into a battalion of his regiment that was being formed to join the French Expeditionary Force to the Dardanelles. But when it came to long marches, it was soon discovered that his old wound was going to bother him. He was unable to march any distance, owing to painful short-windedness, and he was thrown out of the battalion and returned to the depôt. Thence he was drafted into another regiment, and sent up to the Somme. It was with this new regiment that he was to see fighting as fierce as anything during that memorable retreat. He went through the September attack on Souchez unharmed—spending the first four days in the first line, and then six days in the second line, where his company was subjected to a furious bombardment that never ceased. For ten days he got no rest at all. It was at Vailly that he was wounded for the second time during the war, on October 21st. His company had just reached the trenches, coming up from billets, when a shell fell into them. Not a soul besides himself was touched, but he got a substantial piece of it into his thigh. He did not arrive at our hospital till November 8th. The piece was extracted, but it had been an ugly wound, and Grenadel himself, rather low after the hard work of September and October, and handicapped by the weakness left by his old chest wound, was not in the condition best calculated to pick up strength quickly. Still, he is as cheerful as may be, and is content to lie and talk for hours about the problems of the war. To him the war is one long, weird dream. He cannot imagine ever waking from it. It is curious enough to listen to this peasant farmer, in his uncouth accent, philosophising about the psychology of the war and of the nations engaged in it. He is convinced that we shall all of us undergo some tremendous mental change as a consequence of the war. Like so many of the French soldiers, he dallies with the idea of this war ending all warfare, and it gives him pleasure to sketch out a new world, with a tribunal before which all national quarrels shall be brought. And then his salt commonsense peeps out. He shrugs his shoulders, and smiles. "Ah! but, with human nature, such a consummation is impracticable!" So he sums us up, this shrewd, courteous peasant farmer, who, with all his years of toil that left him no time from his field work to get married, has yet managed to think out the causes and consequences of this world-war that has made two attempts to leave him a broken man, and the third time—as so many of them believe—may finish his career altogether.

Joseph André, Occupant of the "Elizabeth Teacher" Bed.

André is a Breton peasant, and when war broke out was in a cyclist battalion. The night before war was declared he was never off his machine—riding backwards and forwards at break-neck speed carrying despatches from the military centre to all the outlying districts. Later he was drafted into a cavalry regiment, and during the early part of the war

and authority given to medical women whose services are being used in various capacities in auxiliary military and war hospitals in this country.

The regulations for the Army Medical Service, under the heading of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Discipline and Duties, define status thus:—"As regards *medical* and sanitary matters and work in connection with the sick, the matrons, sisters, and staff nurses are to be regarded as having authority in and about military hospitals *next after the officers of the R.A.M.C.*, and are at all times to be obeyed accordingly, and to receive the respect due to their position."

The Standing Orders for the Territorial Force Nursing Service contain, in Appendix D the same paragraph, and an official copy of the Orders is given to each member of the Nursing Staff.

In some Auxiliary Military and War Hospitals throughout the country, the retained Nursing Staff, including the Matron, were previously parish-trained or general-trained, and have been since mobilised and uniformed as members of the Territorial Force Nursing Service. Medical Women are allowed to serve in these hospitals, but have no commissions, and are not even mobilised, so that they have not even the status or authority accorded to the nursing profession.

In one hospital only, in this country, medical women have been granted status (without commissions). This is described as "a special case." The Director-General of the Army Medical Service has approved of the employment of medical women in auxiliary military and war hospitals (hospitals, that is, for the wounded). It has probably not been brought to their notice that medical women so serving are in an invidious position. Their services may be, and are, requested for other than statutory duties, and the situation created thereby may be, for lack of status, impossible. What Mrs. Scharlieb describes as a curious national want of logic is really a lack of foresight. Medical Women are not given commissions, because it would be establishing a precedent. Medical women are content to serve without commissions or rank, but status is their due, and perhaps the day is not far distant when one more anomaly will be swept away. It is for women themselves to point out these anomalies, but in the meantime to serve until their many difficulties are overcome. In Red Cross and V.A.D. Hospitals these difficulties do not exist, because Matrons, Sisters, and Staff Nurses are not members of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, nor of the Territorial Force Nursing Service. V.A.D. members serving in Military First Line Red Cross Hospitals and Auxiliary Hospitals receive brassards. The doctors may be civilians. It is interesting to point out that the standard of pay to the nursing staff of above has been raised to that of the Territorial Force Nursing Service.

The man medical officer has from time immemorial retained for himself the position of Superior Officer in Civilian and Military Hospitals. The medical woman, whatever her seniority or qualifications, is in a subordinate position to the staff nurses! The newly-fledged medical man, because of his sex, immediately enters the portals as Superior Officer. He can join the R.A.M.C. and become an officer, and get status. In civilian hospitals, of course, the status of the man or woman medical officer on duty is equal.

It is contrary to the practice and time-honoured experience of the medical profession that members of the medical profession should be considered inferior officers, and that precedence should be given to the Matron, Sisters, and Staff Nurses, whose duties and training do not warrant such a position. It is creating a position likely to lead to abuse of authority by those entitled by the authority of the Standing Orders to wield it, and it is not conducive to discipline nor to duty to lower the standard or lessen the authority of the medical profession. This the Director-General of the Army Medical Service may see his way to avoid by granting medical women status.

It is obvious that a medical woman without a commission has no military authority, and without a status, what is she? This is the puzzle, and its solution medical women await with interest.

ANOMALY.

POLITICAL AGITATION.

MADAM,—As once before, a letter from N. O'Shea has roused my sluggish mind to action. In THE COMMON CAUSE issue for April 7th this writer appears to favour a return to political Suffrage agitation, because our war arrangements with Italy are not in accordance with Mr. Asquith's declaration as to England's objects in the war.

Without knowledge or experience sufficient to judge in this matter of international war relationships, the comment may, perhaps, be made that, while we cannot impose our own ideals upon other nations who happen to be fighting our common foe, our own actions should always be in pursuance of our own ideals, and there should be no co-operation in any action whose aim is opposed to those ideals.

The suggestion that Suffrage agitation should re-commence cannot be accepted by those who realise that the war (with its attendant problems), approved or disapproved, is the great practical matter of the day. Can we turn away from the life and death struggle to work for votes, even though we may think that those votes may help to hinder such struggle in the future?

There are, of course, various methods of action in connection with this war problem. There is *one* open to all who believe the revelation of a great Spirit Father, shaping the end of humanity, in spite of men's rough-hewings, and who are in touch with Him, through the living Spirit whom Christ brought to the world. They can call down into the struggle that Spirit of power, of righteousness, of judgment, and can cry out, with tears, that the very passions of men may be overruled to further the great end of *Humanity*, which is not yet.

M. FILSELL.

PROTECTION OF THE MALE WAGE-EARNER.

MADAM,—I hope you will excuse the liberty I take in calling your attention to the action of the Government and trade unions. The Government are giving signed guarantees to men's unions that their respective trades will receive Government protection after the war against the occupation of women. It seems likely, if women are not very vigilant, their economic and industrial position will be in a worse state after the war than before. Such Government guarantees could be interpreted to women's disaster. Besides, it looks like now exploiting women.

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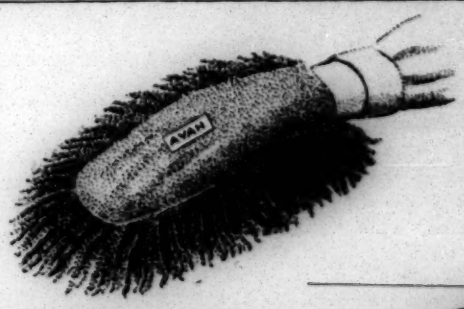

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The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 52,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time suspended their ordinary political activities, in order to put themselves and their Union at the service of those who are organising the relief of distress caused by the war.

Dragging the Housewife into Politics.

It is impossible to open a newspaper nowadays without finding a more or less complete surrender to the principles underlying the demand for Women's Suffrage. The thinkers were for us long ago; the statesmen of to-morrow are all for us; the Press has, in fact, conceded the position. Slowly and reluctantly recognising that the woman-power of the nation is vitally necessary for a people in the hour when they must put forth all their strength or perish, the Press has dropped its old tradition and pretence of addressing itself to men only, except in its back pages, where formerly drapers' advertisements were deftly worked up into something which was derisively called a "woman's column." The writers in the newspapers of to-day address themselves directly to women as well as to men. The leaders of the change have been the writers on economics and finance. We have had a rude awakening from mental torpor. We have had to learn that there are many ways of acting to the detriment of the community, and we are developing a new sort of conscience, besides a quite new sense of the meaning of the words "the power of the purse."

Only this week Mr. Hartley Withers explained to the United Workers that it was necessary now, at once, with the beginning of milder weather, to cut down our consumption of coal as fast as possible, because the supply of labour and the supply of coal were both limited, and unless self-denial was practised *now*, the poor would suffer next winter for our self-indulgence this spring. But the reasons for coal economy spread far and wide. Almost every problem of expenditure, sooner or later, takes us back to coal. The needs of France, cut off from her own supplies by invasion; the needs of factories, the needs of munition supply, the needs of the poor—all to be considered before an order is written out for the coal merchant! Which is to say, that the prosecution of the war, the economic problems of the Allied countries, shipping and import questions, and foreign exchanges, are only a few of the considerations which economists and the Press urge daily upon the woman who holds the family purse. The housewife has been dragged into politics with a vengeance; she must grasp questions of State, she must realise that her decisions tell for or against the interests of her country, and of all that she holds most dear. She is finding out her responsibilities.

How far off seem the days when women were told that they must "leave the nation's concerns to men" and interest themselves in home, parish, or possibly, municipal affairs, and never look beyond. Thus far and no further! And now this arbitrary line of division is found impossible; the railings are down. The big Imperial Reasons, why and wherefore, must control the domestic machinery; and all the woman-power of the household is called forth to serve the State.

It is assumed, in short, that women's political education is complete; that she has reached a standard of intelligence and a conception of public duty which (before the war) were believed to be beyond the average male voter.

For the call to women to think, to act, to exercise their judgment daily and hourly in steering their course for the good of the Commonwealth, is nothing less than a recognition of the fact that the statesman's faculties are to be found among women as well as among men, and this appeal to those faculties in women is a more important sign of the times than even the recognition accorded to women's work in war time.

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J. McNuttall, Esq.		5	0
Proceeds of Meeting, per Sister Linton (Serbians) ...	2	7	0
David Burns, Esq.		10	0
*Per Miss E. A. Jones, Hon. Treas., Haslemere and District W.S.S.		15	2
*Sutton Coldfield W.S.S.: Proceeds of Lecture by Dr. Phillips, per Mrs. Ring ...	2	4	2
*Per Mrs. Robertson: Geo. Clark, Esq., for 2nd year of "Jacobina S. Clark" Bed, Salonika (£50), Mrs. Hunter (£1), Mrs. Waitt (2s. 6d.), Employees of Messrs. Glenfield & Kennedy (£13 8s. 6d.), Employees of Messrs. Boyd & Forrest (£2 10s.)	67	1	0
Miss Isabella Law (for "Isabella" Bed)		2	6
*Unemployment Insurance, Women's Staff, Divisional Office, Board of Trade, Warrington, per Miss E. Hobson (2nd instalment to name Bed)	4	3	4
*Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S. Joint Committee for S.W.H., per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas.: Per Miss McCulloch, Ayr and District W.S.S.: Messrs. Craig's Free Gift Sale (share of proceeds), per J. E. Shaw, Esq., Ayr (£100), Mrs. Welsh, Cake and Candy Sale (£25), Mrs. Thomson, Bring and Buy Sale (£25) (for upkeep of one of the "Rabbie Burns" Beds), Ayr and Distract W.S.S., monthly donation (£8 8s.), Maids at Invercloy (10s.),—£158 18s.—Lenzie W.S.S., per Miss Duff (for upkeep of "Lenzie" Bed) (£60 10s), Staff and Workers of Messrs. Alex. Stephen, to name "Linthouse" Bed, Salonika (£57 6s.), Employees of Messrs. Harland & Wolff, to name "Harland & Wolff, Ltd., Govan Employees" Bed, Royaumont (£55 14s. 6d.), Messrs. Barr & Stroud, "Employees' Special War Fund" (£50), Avondale War Relief Fund, per A. Wilson, Esq. (£50), Lenzie Bohemian Club, to name "Lenzie Bohemian Club" Bed, Royaumont, per W. G. Sandeman (£50), West Calder & District United Friendly Societies, per F. Halliday, Esq., for Serbian Refugees (£42 10s.), First Church of Christ Scientist, Glasgow, per Mrs. Finlay (£30), Employees of Brandon Bridge Building Co., Ltd., Motherwell (£25), Per Mrs. Jackson, Messrs. Dunsmuir & Jackson, Govan Engine Works (£25), Per Mrs. Farquhar: Mrs. Herbertson (£5), Mr. and Mrs. Wylie (£5), Mr. and Mrs. Fullarton (£5), Mr. and Mrs. Farquhar (£3 17s.), Mrs. J. Buchanan (£2 2s.), Mr. and Mrs. Porteous (£1 1s.), Mr. and Mrs. Pearson (£1 1s.), Mr. and Mrs. Church (£1), Mrs. A. Muirhead (10s.), Under 10s. (9s.) (£25)—Employees of Messrs. Findlay & Co., Parkneuk Works, Motherwell, per Mrs. Jackson (£21 7s. 8d.), Firm and Employees of Messrs. John & James White, Shawfield works, Rutherglen (£20 4s.), Mrs. Gray (Lesmahagow Meeting) (£14 10s.), Concert in Polmadie U.F. Church, per Miss Wishart (£13 15s.), Employees, Messrs. Sir Wm. Arrol & Co., Bridgeton (£12 15s. 9d.), Mrs. Dixon (£10), Employees of Messrs. Ross & Duncan, Govan (£10), Staff and Employees, Messrs. Geo. Christie, Ladywell Wire Works, Govan (£10), Firm of Wire Works, Govan (£10), Jas. Findlay, Esq. (£10), Mrs. Finlayson (£10), Mrs. Albert Harvey (£10), Hugh Gardner, Esq., Concert in Ruthergien, per Miss Miller (£9 12s.), Employees, Matthew Paul & Co., Ltd., Dumbarton (£7), Firm and Employees, Messrs. Allan Whyte, Clyde Patent Wire Rope Works, Ruthergien (£6 7s. 10d.), Motherwell Iron Steel Co., per Baillie Frood (£6), Office, Warehouse Staff, and Yard Employees, Messrs. P. W. Maclellan (£5 10s. 6d.), S. M. (£5 5s.), Misses Ker, New York, part proceeds, Musical Evening (£5 5s.), Queen Margaret College Union, per Miss St. Clair Balls (£5 3s.), Employees, Messrs. J. B. Stevenson, Cranstonhill Bakeries (£5), Mrs. W. J. Alexander (£5), Miss McEwan (£5), Messrs. Findlay & Co., Motherwell (£5), Mrs. David Maclay, per Miss J. B. Lindsay (£5), Messrs. J. Todd & Sons, Ltd., Rope and Twine Manufacturers and Yarn Spinners (£5), United Co-operative Baking Society, Ltd., Glasgow, S.S. (£5), Dr. and Mrs. Maitland Ramsay (£5), Blairmore and Strone W.S.S. Meeting (£3 18s.), Messrs. Robert Potter & Sons, Govan Foundry (£3 3s.), R. J. F. (£3 3s.), D.L. Motor Manufacturing Co., per Mrs. Jackson (£3 1s. 6d.), Miss Sarah Melville (£3), Mrs. Sedgwick, per Miss Biles (£2 10s.), Staff of Petershill School, per J. Moodie, Esq. (£2 10s.), Employees of Wm. Beattie, Denistoun Bakery (2 weeks' donation) (£2 6s. 1d.), Shipyard Platers, Messrs. A. Stephen & Sons, Ltd., Linthouse (February donation) (£2 3s.), Staff of Fordyce Academy, per G. Anderson Simpson, Esq. (£2 2s. 6d.), Mrs. Lusk (£2 2s.), Operative Bakers' and Confectioners' Fed. Union, per Mr. McDairmid (£2 2s.), Robert A. Jackson (£2 2s.), Messrs. Drysdale & Co., Ltd., Yoker (£2 2s.), Mrs. Hodgart (£2 2s.), Employees of Messrs. Bilsland Bros. (£2), Staff of G. and S. W. Railway Office, per J. Vallance, Esq. (£1 9s. 3d.), Beelshill Operative Bakers, per Wm. Gemmell, Esq. (£1 4s. 6d.), M.F. University Library (£1 1s.), A Few Workers in Parata, Ltd. (£1 1s.), A. J. Smith, Esq. (£1), Miss Mabel Fenn, U.S.A., per Miss J. B. Richmond (£1), Miss Brown (£1), Miss Henderson (£1), Miss Mackay (£1), Miss McGregor (£1), Sabbath School of Bank U.F. Church, New Cumnock, per J. Mechie (£1), Great Hamilton Street U.F. Church (£1), Mrs. Levack (£1), Mrs. Paterson (£1), Miss Ferguson (£1), Mrs. J. F. Sinclair (£1), Misses Blackie (15s.), Employees, Messrs. J. Campbell (15s.), Messrs. MacAlpine & Co. (10s.), Miss Jessie Gray (10s.), Under 10s. (£1 4s. 6d.)—Total ...	934	11	7
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Miss M. A. Bennet	1	0	0
Miss Alison Wordie (for 2nd 6 months of "Fraisgil" Bed, Royaumont)	25	0	0
Miss J. C. Grange	1	0	0
Alex. Paton		5	0
Per Miss Bury, collected in Messrs. R. Heggie & Sons', Kirkcaldy Power Loom Linen Works		14	3
Miss Hope (for "Isabella" Bed)		10	0
Miss Harvey		10	0
Mrs. W. Ritchie	2	2	0
Wm. Ritchie, Esq.	2	2	0
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Mrs. Jane G. Martin, per Messrs. T. & J. Martin ...	2	0	0
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Miss A. M. Mackenzie (towards "Aberdeen University" Bed, Royaumont) ...		5	0
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Miss Howe (Royaumont) ...	5	5	0
Miss Wright	1	1	0
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Anon.	3	0	0
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*Mrs. Rait, per Miss S. E. S. Mair (for X-ray Apparatus, Salonika)	10	0	0
League of Honour, Elie, per Miss Campbell, Pres., per Miss S. E. S. Mair	1	0	0
Busby Co-operative Society, Ltd.	1	1	0
*Per Miss E. McGregor, Burton-on-Trent Society	3	10	0
*Per Mrs. Robertson: Part proceeds of Glen Saturday, per Mrs. Houieson Craufurd (to name "Craufurdland Glen" Bed, 6 months) (£25); Employees, Messrs. Boyd & Forrest (£2 15s. 8d.); Teachers and pupils of Loanhead School, per Mr. Walker, Headmaster (£5 1s. 10d.); Additional for "Scots Thistle" Bed, Miss Kennedy (10s.); Per Miss Clark (17s.)	34	4	6
Total	£104,158	15	8½

* Denotes further donation.

The Hon. Treasurer begs once more to thank all those who have helped and are helping, and will gratefully acknowledge further subscriptions to carry on the work. Cheques should be sent either to the Hon. Secretary, Dr. Elsie Inglis, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Laurie, Red House, Greenock, and crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland."

Further List of Beds Named.

Name of Bed.	*Donor.*
"Fraisgil" (Royaumont, 2nd 6 months)	Miss Alison Wordie, Fraisgil, Montgomerie Drive, Glasgow.
"Scottish League of Honour IV." (Salonika, 6 months)	Per Miss Cameron, Y.W.C.A., 122, George Street, Edinburgh. Scottish Division.
"Charles Connell" (Royaumont, 1 year)	Mrs. Connell, 1, Lancaster Crescent, Kelvinside, Glasgow.
"Craufurdland Glen" (Royaumont, 6 months)	Per Mrs. Robertson, Morningside, Kilmarnock, part proceeds of Glen Saturday, per Mrs. Houieson. Craufurd, Craufurdland Castle, Kilmarnock.

What Some of our Societies are Doing.

West Lancashire, West Cheshire, and North Wales Federation.

An effort is at present being made amongst the Societies of this Federation to raise funds to finance the Refugee Children's Unit, Kazan, for six months. Miss McPherson has kindly undertaken to act as Hon. Organising Secretary for this work.

Birkenhead W.S.S., which initiated the workroom for dressmakers' assistants thrown out of work by the war, has collected £156 for the Scottish Women's Hospitals (£5 taken at a shipyard meeting).

Bangor W.S.S. has its bed in the Welsh Unit of the Scottish Hospital (for which it originated the Centre N. Wales appeal) and sent £10 to the Russian Unit.

Chester W.S.S. has, since war broke out, been working the Mayoress' Bureau, which distributes clothing, &c., to H.M. forces and hospitals, and sends weekly food to prisoners in Germany.

Colwyn Bay W.S.S. has many members doing good work in V.A.D. hospitals, and on the local Patriotic Committee. The Ladies' Distress Committee (all Suffragists) has established a workroom, a Tipperary club, and clubs for women and girls. Colwyn Bay raised £8 8s. for the Welsh Bed at Netley, and £11 for the Serbian Fund.

Criccieth W.S.S.—The President has been out in France for six months, and members are nursing for the Red Cross and sewing at home.

Frodsham and Eddisbury W.S.S. has only twenty members, spread over many villages. One is Hon. Matron of Helsby Military Hospital, nine are Red Cross nurses, one is nursing in France, one working with the S.S.F.A. in Liverpool, three teach, and three have home duties, but all six of them sew.

Liverpool W.S.S.—The working strength of this Society is entirely absorbed in S.S.F.A. work. £90 donation has gone to the Scottish Women's Hospitals. Five study circles formed.

Lytham and St. Anne's Branch W.S.S. organised a branch of the Home Service Corps, by which means various women were put in the way of earning their own living—*e.g.*, five learning gardening, three agriculture, six motor driving, others bank and post office duties. "Thrift" propaganda has also been carried on.

Llangollen W.S.S. started a League of Honour Branch and a Cadet Corps, and also held a Common Cause Day. On March 23rd, a Cake Sale, &c., cleared £10 10s., of which half went to the Scottish Hospitals.

Newton-le-Willows W.S.S. has its members on the War Relief Committee, and collected for the Scottish Hospitals.

Penmaenmawr W.S.S. raised £15 for the Welsh Bed at Netley.

Preston W.S.S.—"Proud Preston" is still in the van as regards infant welfare centre work, although some honoured members of her society are abroad on active service. Others are working for the provision of training for unskilled women, and undertaking patrol, ambulance, or station buffet duties. The society may well be proud, for she has raised over £200 for the Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Seaforth W.S.S. holds its working party for the Military Hospital.

Southport W.S.S. initiated a School for Mothers (now receiving a Board of Education grant), at present run by the Suffrage Society in connection with two others. It raised £33 10s. for the Scottish Hospitals, and sold 382 copies of the "Hospital" number of The Common Cause.

Wallasey W.S.S., with two other Associations, is running a maternity centre and babies' welcome. The Suffrage Society has a Tipperary club, and held a patriotic house-keeping exhibition, also named a bed in Serbian Unit of Scottish Hospitals. It was officially invited to nominate three representatives on the local Distress Committee, and to send a representative for the Mayor's procession.

Warrington W.S.S. has all its members engaged on war work. Five Suffragists are on local War Relief Committee.

Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation.

Guildford.—For two months, Mrs. Hartree has superintended a working-party for the Scottish Hospitals, through which we have obtained several new members and kept on old ones. Mrs. Green, of Dr. Hutchison's staff, paid us a visit, and related her experience of the awful retreat from Serbia before Christmas. Immediately after the Council, the starting of a "Women's Interests Committee" was discussed at a meeting with some Trades Union leaders. Almost at the same time an appeal from the National Federation of Women Workers for help towards the organisation of women munition workers gave us an object for which to work. A committee has been formed, supported apathetically by women workers, but strongly by men. We hope to hold a public meeting, with Miss Bondfield as speaker, on April 19th, with the Secretaries of the principal Trade Unions present. Many contributions are hoped for to a jumble sale, to be held shortly at the office.

GODALMING.—The Head-master of Charterhouse and his wife kindly held a meeting in the School Library on April 7th, in the afternoon, in aid of the Scottish Hospitals, the Head-master in the chair. Dr. Beatrice McGregor and Miss Pares gave extremely interesting accounts of their work among the Serbian wounded, their travels out there, the dangers and difficulties to which the nursing unit was exposed, the air-raids, the ravages of typhus, and all the horrors and terrible hardships of the final retreat from the invading enemy. The audience was invited to tea afterwards, and the greatest admiration was expressed for the heroism and devoted work of doctors and nurses. A public meeting followed in the evening, in the Municipal Buildings, Sir John Jardine, M.P. for Roxburgh, in the chair. The same ladies spoke to a full audience, and the sums collected on both occasions are expected to realise a profit of approximately £12, which will be equally divided between the London Unit and the Federation Hospital Bed.

EAST GRINSTEAD.—The working parties held at the Suffrage Club have been continued regularly five afternoons a week, and 3,541 sandbags, a large number of garments for the children of Polish refugees in Russia, and some sulphur bags for our men at the Front to wear, have been made. Five outfits for infants, made according to Polish patterns by a member and some friends, with which a greeting in Russian was sent, have been sent with the other clothes for refugees.

Over £60 was raised for the Scottish Women's Hospitals, and £32 for Red Cross purposes for the War Work Association. Some thrift meetings were got up, which, on the whole, were well attended. The Society is now affiliated to the Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation.

Four members of the Committee acted as Registration Enumerators, and one was co-opted as member of the local Emergency Invasion Committee—one of the only two women in England to serve on such a committee. Two others represent the Society on the committees of the War Work Association, Ltd. Another member of the Society originated the idea of toy-making and other competitions, which the War Work Association has lately taken up warmly and considerably developed. The toys, &c., sent in will be sold on behalf of war charities—the S.W. Hospital for one—on May 3rd.

Shrewsbury.

A well attended meeting was held on April 3rd, at which the present Suffrage position was discussed. Mrs. Whitwell was in the chair, and Miss Evans gave a most able lecture on our present situation and the question of the Franchise Service Bill. The following resolution was passed, and has been sent up to the Shropshire M.P.'s:—"That this meeting of Shrewsbury Suffragists believes that the economic and social interests of women and children need protection now more urgently than ever, and in view of the increasingly large number of women and girls employed directly or indirectly by Government, it is vital to these interests that women should be enfranchised without delay. The future of our country is at stake, and the high standard in the nurture and learning of our future citizens is of infinite importance. The mothers of those citizens must be given the full rights and responsibilities of citizenship. We view with concern the proposal to so modify the franchise laws as to ensure votes to men in the services, without the opportunity being given for an amendment to include women who are also performing national service. We therefore call upon our Members of Parliament for Shropshire to demand that any Service Franchise Bill be so framed as to enfranchise women, or to allow of such an amendment, and meanwhile themselves to frame, introduce, and press a separate Woman's Suffrage Bill." Members of the audience were also asked to write personally to their M.Ps.

Plymouth.

By the kindness of Mrs. A. C. Ramsey, Plymouth members of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies held their seventh annual meeting at 4, Wentworth Villas. There was a good attendance, and much satisfaction was displayed when figures were given showing that the membership continued nearly up to its pre-war time level.

The Society has collected up to date nearly £100,000. An anonymous donor has given £1,000 in admiration of the splendid work done by Dr. Elsie Inglis and the doctors and nurses with her in Serbia. The meeting was presided over by Mrs. Daymond, who was re-elected Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year. The other officers appointed were Miss G. M. Keys (Hon. Treasurer), Miss Mabel Ramsey, M.D.ch.B. Edinburgh (Hon. Secretary), Mesdames Bali, Berriman, Bosworth, Clarke, Croole, Macleod, Carey, A. C. Ramsey, and Williams forms the Committee.

Local subscribers have for some time been maintaining six beds in hospitals organised and staffed by women surgeons and physicians in the war zone. A concise review of the career of these hospitals formed the outstanding feature of the report presented by the Hon. Sec.

Mrs. Annie C. Ramsey is at present collecting for six beds, three for France, named "Plymouth," "Devon," and "Cornwall. She has also collected sufficient money to pay for them at £1 per week up to date, and aims at obtaining enough to keep them going until the end of the war

Herne Bay.

To celebrate the anniversary of the initiation (on March 23rd, 1915) of this Society's work—meetings on behalf of the N.U.W.S.S. Women's Hospitals, a "Réunion" of those members who have assisted in this work—took place at the residence of the Hon. Sec. and the Chairman, on the afternoon of March 23rd last. The rooms were decorated with red carnations, white tulips, and their green foliage; even the cakes and sweetmeats carried out our Union's colours. Musical items were contributed by the guests, the host, and hostess; and the Chairman of the local council (a most energetic member of the Society), in a short speech, referred in exceedingly eulogistic terms, to the splendid "war-work" accomplished by the N.U.W.S.S. in general, and the Herne Bay Society in particular. The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks, proposed by the President (Miss Mary L. Pendered), to Councillor and Mrs. Cowper Field for their hospitality.

An "Irish Soldiers' Flag Day" was held in Herne Bay on March 25th, on the initiative of the Roman Catholic Priest and several Irish residents in the town. At the request of the Chairman of the Council (Councillor George Carsons, J.P.), the Hon. Secretary of this Society undertook the organisation of the proceedings, and was loyally helped by the Committee, in conjunction with many Irish ladies residing in the neighbourhood. The 1st Herne Troop (St. Patrick's) Boy Scouts assisted with a decorated motor-car. After the "count" a highly satisfactory result was announced. Councillor Carsons thanked most warmly the members of this Society, who had rendered such valuable assistance on this, as on similar occasions; which sentiments were echoed by the Rev. Father Fitz-Herbert.

Wokingham.

A jumble sale will be held on Saturday, April 15th, at Montague House, at 2.30 (by kind permission of Miss Beith). Admission 2d. Contributions will be gratefully received by Miss Powell, Starmead, Wokingham. The proceeds will be given to the Refugees' Maternity Units organised by the National Union. Our Committee also begs to remind members that all subscriptions are due in April for the year 1916-17, and are payable to the Hon. Treasurer, Miss Powell, Starmead, Wokingham.

Cupar-Fife.

A jumble sale in aid of the Scottish Women's Hospitals was held in the Corn Exchange on Saturday afternoon, April 1st. The sum drawn amounted to £24 12s.

Forthcoming Meetings.

APRIL 14th.

Bristol—Hay Box Cookery Demonstration by Miss Blades, at 40, Park Street 7.30

Sunderland—Society for W.S.—Annual Meeting—Fawcett Street Café—Chair: Mrs. J. T. Dunn, of Gateshead—Recitations; tea and coffee 7.30

APRIL 17th.

Ealing and Acton—Annual Meeting, Buols Restaurant—Speaker: Mrs. Streeter, on "After the War" 2.45

Birmingham—Women's Co-operative Guild, Aston—Motherhood—Mrs. Attlee 3.0

Birmingham—Miss Kirby's Parlour for Soldiers' and Sailors' Wives—Motherhood—Miss Palmer 8.0

APRIL 18th.

Bristol—Women's Interests Committee at 40, Park Street 7.30

APRIL 19th.

Birmingham—Minworth Women's Class—Motherhood—Mrs. Martin 3.0

Birmingham—Dog Pool Adult School—Motherhood—Dr. Edith Huffton 7.30

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS.

APRIL 14th.—Exeter—Small Barnfield Hall—Miss Geraldine Cooke will speak on the work of the Scottish Women's Hospital and of the Russian Maternity Units—Admission free—A collection will be taken 8.0

Working Parties.

Birkenhead—Theosophical Society's Rooms, 48a, Hamilton Street—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals
2nd and 4th Monday in the month, 2.0

Blackheath and Greenwich Sewing Party for Scottish Women's Hospital—at 8, Shooter's Hill Road—Hostess, Mrs. Monk Every Tuesday, 2.0—6.0

Bolton—Suffrage Shop, Bradshawgate—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals
Every Monday, 2.30; and every Thursday at 8.0

Bournemouth—At 167, Old Christchurch Road—for the Polish Refugees Maternity Unit
Every Monday, 3.0—6.0

Bridlington—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Wednesday, 3.0—6.0

Bristol—Working Party at 40, Park Street—April 19th

Chiswick and Bedford Park—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Thursday, 3.0—6.0

Eastbourne—At the Club, 134, Terminus Road—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Hospitals in France and Serbia Every Monday, 2.30—4.30

Farnham—At Bourne Lodge—Working Party for the Russian Maternity Unit
On Thursday, at 2.45—4.15

Guildford and District—Working Party for Scottish Women's Hospitals and Russian Maternity Unit, at the office, 1a, Mount Street. Fridays, 3.0—6.0

Hastings—At the Suffrage Club—A Working Party for Scottish Women's Hospitals
Every Tuesday, 2.30—6.0

Highgate—At 26, West Hill—Hostess, Mrs. Garnett—Members and friends cordially invited every 3rd Friday 3.0—5.0

Huddersfield—Sewing Meetings will be held at the Office, 41, Spring Street Every Tuesday, 2.30

Paddington—22, Kildare Terrace, Westbourne Grove (by kind permission of Mrs. Barstow)—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals
Every day, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Reigate—For N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals and Maternity Unit for Polish Refugees—February 28th and alternate Mondays 2.30

Scarborough—6, Falconer Chambers—Working Party Every Tuesday, 2.45

Shipley and Baildon—Ladies' Parlour of Saltaire Congregational Church School—Sewing Meeting
Every Thursday, 2.30

Solihull—Church House—Working Party for making comforts for the Italian troops
Every Monday, 3.0

Southampton—Working Party for the Russian Maternity Unit, at Hazelhurst, Hulse Road—Hostess, Mrs. Farquharson
Every Wednesday, 3.0—6.30

South Kensington—Belgian Hostel, 1, Argyll Road—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals
Every Tuesday and Friday, 2.0—4.30

Wakefield—St. John's Institute—Sewing Party
Every Wednesday, 2.30—6.0

Warwick and Leamington—35, Warwick Street, Leamington—Working Party to make sand bags
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